

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
FILE
memorandum

DATE: January 17, 1992
REPLY TO
ATTN OF: Red Wolf Coordinator, FWS, Asheville, NC
SUBJECT: Monthly activity report - December 1991
TO: Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (FWE/SE)
Attention: Mr. Dave Flemming

I was on leave most of the month. I gave a presentation, an update on the Smokies release, to the Gatlinburg Rotary Club. The position statement on hybrids was revised and resubmitted to the Regional Office. I prepared a draft letter (for the Regional Director's signature) responding to the Tennessee Farm Bureau regarding their concerns about the Smokies release. I prepared a memo regarding kennel size and water containers for the Point Defiance Zoo for distribution to cooperators for them to utilize in their contacts with air cargo personnel when shipping red wolves. On request, I sent out 17 copies of the environmental assessment for the Smokies. Eight additional written requests (and numerous phone requests) for general literature and information were filled.

The Smokies project is going well. The only mishap was that an adult wolf caught a chicken! There was evidence of deer and grouse kills, and there was a record of one interaction with a coyote, which resulted in the coyote vacating the premises. The wolves made no attempts to pursue cattle, but several encounters with cattle were recorded where the cattle charged the wolves and chased them out of the pastures.

Following is an update of current locations of animals. Only a few transfers remain to be completed before the upcoming breeding season. Since we are going into another breeding season, I am lumping all animals together instead of separating the figures by age.

A. Wild Populations

1. Alligator River NWR - There are possibly 27 wolves in the population (9 males, 17 females, and 1 unknown). No contact has been made with one adult female for several years, so she may or may not be alive. One female born this past spring was killed by a vehicle this month.
2. Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) - 4 wolves (1 male, 3 female).

B. Island Propagation Projects

1. Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, South Carolina - An adult pair is being held in an acclimation pen for breeding purposes. They and their offspring will be released onto the island after the 1992 breeding season.

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